

Memo to File



From: Nicholas Mueller, FEMA Region V Environmental Protection Specialist

Date: 2/8/2010

Subject: Section 7 Endangered Species Act Consultation – Western Springs Fire Station, Cook County, Illinois

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has created an Environmental Assessment for the construction of a 7,059 square feet fire station and associated parking lot located at N 41° 47' 22.26" and W 87° 54' 0.87" in Cook County, Illinois. In compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, a review of the potential impacts to federally listed endangered, threatened and candidate species has been completed. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife technical assistance website, the following federally listed species are known to occur in Cook County: Indiana Bat (endangered), Piping Plover (endangered), Eastern Massasauga (candidate), Hine's Emerald Dragonfly (endangered), Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid (threatened), Leafy-prairie Clover (endangered), Mead's Milkweed (threatened) and Prairie Bush Clover (threatened).

The proposed site consists of a vacant lot surrounded by residential and commercial structures. The project area is in an urban area with a very high percentage of development. The nearest identified watercourse, Flagg Creek, is located approximately 0.35 miles away. No suitable habitat for the federally listed endangered, threatened, or candidate species is present at the proposed project location.

Based on the site description and project activity, the Proposed Action at the City of Chicago site will have "no effect" on the listed species, their habitats or proposed or designated critical habitat.